a third portion, the third portion having security information, the security information configured with the at least one entry selected and at least one method information selected for verification of the first and second portions by the user, and for authentication of a source of the document by the user.

2. (Amended) A document of claim 1, wherein the portions are capable of being distributed over a network to a plurality of servers connected to the network.

8. (Amended) A document of claim 7, wherein authenticity of an element of a modified electronic catalog document is verifiable.

9. (Twice Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for verifying authenticity of an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in a header of the catalog;

identify at least one entry selected from an offer to sell and an offer to buy in a body of the catalog;

locate a digital signature in a footer of the electronic catalog; and

verify the signature to verify the authenticity of the header, footer and body of the electronic catalog.

10. (Twice Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for updating an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;

identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog;

initiate instructions for reading the elements of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is current; and

B3   update the elements of the electronic catalog with current information.

11. (Amended) A computer program of claim 10, wherein reading the elements classifies elements according to time-stamps included therein, and wherein the updating deletes items which have expired.

B4   12. (Amended) A computer program of claim 10, wherein reading the elements classifies elements as either modified or unmodified and wherein the updating modifies items which are identified as modified.

B5   14. (Twice Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for annotation of an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;

identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog;

generate at least one electronic catalog source document from the elements;

generate at least one compound document having elements similar to that of the electronic catalog;

enclose the electronic catalog source document within the compound document; and

provide an annotation section referring to entries in the electronic catalog source document.

B6   16. (Twice Amended) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for assisting purchases and sales of a plurality of items according to a plurality of transaction types, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;

identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog; and

generate a sales-model tag in the header, for specifying the type of transaction for which the electronic catalog will be used.

19. (Twice Amended) A computer storage medium containing a computer program having means for identifying elements of an electronic catalog document for subsequent distribution of the elements, comprising:

means for identifying elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

means for identifying at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog; .

means for identifying at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog; and

means for determining a location in the storage medium for storing each of the elements of the electronic catalog;

means for storing each of the elements in the respective location in the storage medium; and

means for retrieving each of the elements for the respective location for subsequent distribution.

20. (Twice Amended) A computer-based method of providing a verifiable electronic catalog, comprising:

providing a header section to identify a source of the electronic catalog and to identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information;

providing a body section to permit object entries in the electronic catalog, the object entries corresponding to objects available for at least one of sale by and purchase by the source of the electronic catalog;

providing a footer section including information for verifying content of the header and body sections; and

formatting the sections so that they can be presented to a user for verification of the
content by the user and/or selection of objects for at least one of sale by and purchase by the
user in accordance with the at least one ordering method information and payment method
information.

21. (Twice Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

distributing sections of the electronic catalog over a network to a plurality of servers
connected to the network.

22. (Amended) A method of claim 21, wherein the distribution of sections is via URL links.

23. (Amended) A method of claim 20, wherein the object entries permit the user to select
between URL links and in-line data for presentation of multimedia content.

24. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

the source digitally signing the footer section of the electronic catalog to provide a digital
signature.

26. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

integrating sections of a plurality of electronic catalogs to provide an integrated electronic
catalog.

27. (Amended) A method of claim 26, further comprising:

providing for verification of the authenticity of the integrated electronic catalog.

28. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

assembling a plurality of electronic catalog sections to provide an assembled electronic
catalog.

29. (Amended) A method of claim 28, further comprising:

providing for verification of the authenticity of the assembled electronic catalog.

30. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

aggregating a plurality of electronic catalogs to provide an aggregated electronic catalog.

31. (Amended) A method of claim 30, further comprising:

providing for verification of the authenticity of the aggregated electronic catalog.

32. (Amended) A method of claim 20, further comprising:

disassembling an electronic catalog to provide a disassembled electronic catalog.

33. (Amended) A method of claim 32, further comprising:

providing for verification of the authenticity of the disassembled electronic catalog.

35. (Twice Amended) A computer-based method of claim 20, comprising:

reading the sections of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is current; and

updating the electronic catalog with current information.

36. (Amended) A computer-based method of claim 35, wherein the sections of the electronic catalog include time-stamps, wherein reading the sections includes reading the time-stamps, and wherein updating includes deleting expired elements of the electronic catalog document based on the time-stamps.

37. (Amended) A computer-based method of claim 35, wherein the sections of the electronic catalog include an indication whether the sections have been modified, wherein reading the sections includes reading the indication, and wherein updating includes producing a modified electronic catalog based on the indication.

38. (Amended) A computer-based method of claim 35, further comprising:

signing the electronic catalog after updating the electronic catalog.